# Nucleic Acid Technologies Foundation

P.O. Box 8836 Albany, New York 12208

July 1, 1996

Rec'd 7/8/96

George A. Hashim
Associate Research Director
The Council for Tobacco Research - USA, Inc.
900 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Sept 19-22, 1996

Dear Dr. Hashim:

On September 19-22 of this year, an international conference on ***Frontiers of Mitochondrial Research*** will be held at the Rensselaerville Institute & Conference Center, located just outside of Albany, New York. This will be the fifteenth in the series of Albany Conferences organized by the Nucleic Acid Technologies Foundation, in conjunction with several area academic and scientific institutions.

As you can see from the enclosed flyer for this year's meeting, the topic is a very timely one. There has been a burst of interest in recent years on mitochondrial involvement in normal cell function and in disease. Mitochondrial defects are being implicated in a host of neurological, muscular, and metabolic disorders (including diabetes). In addition, considerable interest is starting to focus on mitochondria as targets for a wide range of drugs, including benzodiazepines, immunosuppressants, channel blockers, and nucleoside analogs. Because of the renewed interest in this "old" organelle, the meeting is attracting a distinguished group of front-line researchers to present their latest work.

The reputation and visibility of the Albany Conference series have grown with each meeting over the past 11 years. However, as with all ventures of this type, we rely heavily on outside sponsors to help underwrite some of the expenses. Each year we have been fortunate to receive significant support from private organizations such as yours, who have a vested interest in promoting biomedical research.

The Albany Conferences are unique in many ways, including their intimate nature and inter-disciplinary focus. The audiences have been savvy and appreciative of the chance to exchange ideas in the environment we provide. We make every effort to let them know which companies have helped to make each meeting possible.

This is a request that you consider helping us make the 1996 Albany Conference on Frontiers of Mitochondrial Research a success with your sponsorship. We are seeking contributions in the range of $500 to $5,000. Higher level contributions carry perks such as single-room accommodations for scientific representatives (registration fee waived) and full-page sponsor acknowledgements in the meeting program (design of your choosing but no product advertising). Certainly, we would also be pleased to receive smaller contributions, all of which will be recognized at the meeting and in the final program.

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Applications to attend the meeting from representatives of non-sponsoring companies also are encouraged, with participant selection based solely on potential scientific contribution to the conference.

Checks (tax deductible) may be made out to **The Albany Conferences** and mailed to **PO Box 8836, Albany, New York 12208-0836**. If you need further information or have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the number listed below.

We appreciate your time in considering this request - or directing this request to the appropriate division - and hope that this conference will be of interest to your organization.

Sincerely,

Carmen A. Mannella, Ph.D.
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Co-Chair, Organizing Committee, 1996 Albany Conference
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